

Town Tallies Ten Years of Tree City

Town Manager of Buildings and Grounds Peter Buttkus is the jolly green giant when it comes to awards and the impetus behind three this year for the town.

For the tenth year in a row, Duxbury has been recognized by the National Arbor Foundation as Tree City USA. A special separate award was given in recognition of the town's 10 consecutive years as Tree City USA.

Buttkus, who has been on the job in town since 1994, credits his department and not his green thumb.

"This year we received a special Growth Award which represents a lot of people, not



just my department," he said.

The award was given for three different town initiatives, he explained.

Firstly, for the town purchase of a tub grinder for the transfer station. The unit grinds brush and light construction debris saving the town and the environment in the process. Buttkus said the machinery more than paid for itself in one year, substantially reducing the annual amount of construction refuse transported to the landfill in Bourne.

The second initiative involved town purchase of the Millennium Town Green on Washington Street from the St.

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Margaret's Convent, forever protecting the area as open space.

The final component in the award was recognition of the town's pilot program with the N-Star utility to evaluate potential tree and limb hazards on an ongoing basis.

DPW Director Wally Tonaszuck said of the recognition. "I can honestly say that

Peter and his department do a tremendous job in the area of streetscape and town trees. This is a beautiful town and it is great to get recognition for the efforts in maintaining the town streets, trees and public areas."

Tonaszuck said that Buttkus is diligently working to also meet the requirements and be innovative to get these awards on an annual basis for the benefit of the town.